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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/732,086	12/06/2000	Eric H. Rudolph	MS1-641US	3092

22801 7590 02/11/2005

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EXAMINER	
EL CHANTI, HUSSEIN A	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2157	

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/732,086	RUDOLPH, ERIC H.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hussein A El-chanti	2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 November 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-39* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-39* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to RCE received on July 2, 2004. Claims 1, 12, 19, 25, 30 and 32 were amended. Claims 1-39 are pending examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tso et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,421,733 (referred to hereafter as Tso).

Tso teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a method of checking a local cache for a requested file before sending a request to a network location (see abstract).

As to claim 1, Tso teaches a method of processing a multi-media editing project comprising:

generating a request for one or more multi-media files for use in a multi-media editing project, the request being generated by a user computer that comprises part of a network where multi-media files are maintained in a network-accessible location (see col. 14 lines 11-20, user generates a request to check if file exists in local cache);

intercepting the request (see col. 14 lines 11-20);

ascertaining whether a requested multi-media file is located on the user computer by checking one or more user designated directories for the multimedia file

(see col. 14 lines 21-36, a determination is made whether the file exists in the local cache);

retrieving the multi-media file if the file is located on the user computer (see col. 14 lines 21-36, the file is retrieved from a web location if the file is not found on the local cache); and

seeking the requested file from the network-accessible location if the multi-media file is not located on the user computer (see col. 14 lines 36-56, the file is retrieved from a web location if the file is not found on the local cache).

However Tso does not explicitly teach the limitation "specifying a path name for one or more designated directories". It would have been obvious for one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Tso's teaching of creating and retrieving entries in the cache by specifying the path name of the directories because doing so would have the same functionality which is to determine the existence of the requested files on the client computer before retrieving the file from a remote network location.

As to claims 2 and 27, Tso teaches the method of claims 1 and 25 respectively further comprising asking a user to designate a local directory if a requested file is not found on the user computer (see col. 14 lines 21-36).

As to claims 3, 16, 17 and 20, Tso teaches the method and media of claims 1, 12 and 19 respectively further comprising asking a user to designate a local directory if a requested file is not found on the user computer, and then searching for the requested

file in a designated local directory before seeking the requested file from the network-accessible location (see col. 14 lines 21-36).

As to claims 4, 21-22 and 26, Tso teaches the method and media of claims 1, 19 and 25 respectively wherein said ascertaining comprises checking various predetermined file directories on the computer's hard drive (see col. 14 lines 21-36).

As to claims 5, 13-15 and 23, Tso teaches the method and media of claims 1, 12 and 19 respectively, wherein said ascertaining comprises: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files have been stored in the past; and checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files (see col. 14 lines 21-36).

As to claims 6 and 24, Tso teaches the method and media of claims 1 and 19 respectively, wherein said ascertaining comprises: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored; and checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files (see col. 14 lines 21-36).

As to claim 7, Tso teaches the method of claim 1, wherein said ascertaining comprises: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files have been stored in the past or are presently stored; and checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files (see col. 14 lines 21-36)

As to claims 8 and 33-35, Tso teaches the method of claims 1 and 32 respectively further comprising: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored; and updating the list responsive to receiving and storing a multi-media file in a local directory that is not on the list (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

As to claim 9, Tso teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored; and updating the list responsive to a user designating a local directory that is not on the list (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

As to claim 10, Tso teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, implement the method of claim 1 (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

As to claims 11, 18 and 29, Tso teaches a multi-media project editing application configured for execution on a user computer, the application being configured to implement the method of claims 1, 12 and 25 respectively (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

As to claim 12, Tso teaches a method of processing a multi-media editing project comprising:

maintaining information on a local computer that comprises part of a network having multiple computers, said information being associated with multi-media files that are maintained in a network-accessible location and that can be temporarily stored on the local computer's hard drive; and

responsive to a request to retrieve a multi-media file from the network-accessible location, using the information to attempt to locate the requested file on the local computer's hard drive before attempting to retrieve the file in the network-accessible location (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

As to claim 19, Tso teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

maintain a list on a local computer that comprises part of a network having multiple computers, said list being used to determine which local directories have been used in the past, or are currently being used to stored multi-media files that are maintained in a network-accessible location; and

responsive to a request to retrieve a multi-media file from the network-accessible location, use the list to first attempt to locate the requested file on the local computer's hard drive(see col. 14 lines 21-60).

However Tso does not explicitly teach the limitation "specifying a path name for one or more designated directories". It would have been obvious for one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Tso's teaching of creating and retrieving entries in the cache by specifying the path name of the directories because doing so would have the same functionality which is to determine the existence of the requested files on the client computer before retrieving the file from a remote network location.

As to claim 25, Tso teaches a method of processing a multi-media editing project comprising:

receiving one or more multi-media files from a network-accessible location;

locally storing the one or more multi-media files in a local directory on a user computer for use in a multi-media editing project;

updating a list of local directories that contain or have contained multi-media files in the past in the event that the one or more multi-media files are stored in a local directory that is not contained in the list;

responsive to receiving a request for a multi-media file that is maintained in the network-accessible location:

first checking in all of the local directories on the list of local directories for the requested file; and

second checking the network-accessible location for the requested file in the event the requested file is not found locally (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

However Tso does not explicitly teach the limitation "specifying a path name for one or more designated directories". It would have been obvious for one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Tso's teaching of creating and retrieving entries in the cache by specifying the path name of the directories because doing so would have the same functionality which is to determine the existence of the requested files on the client computer before retrieving the file from a remote network location.

As to claim 28, Tso teaches the method of claim 25 wherein the files are read only files (see col. 14).

As to claim 30, Tso teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

maintain a list of local directories that are or have been used to store multi-media files on a local user computer, the multi-media files being accessible from a network storage location;

generate a request for a multi-media file that is accessible from a network storage location, the request being intended for use in retrieving a multi-media file from the network accessible storage location;

intercept the request;

ascertain a requested file from the request;

first, determine whether the requested file is locally available by checking all of the local directories maintained on the list and retrieve the requested file from a local directory if the file is locally maintained;

second, seek the requested file from the network storage location if the file is not locally maintained;

store the requested file in a local directory if the requested file is retrieved from the network storage location; and

update the list to reflect the local directory if the local directory in which the requested file is stored is not on the list (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

However Tso does not explicitly teach the limitation "specifying a path name for one or more designated directories". It would have been obvious for one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Tso's teaching of creating and retrieving entries in the cache by specifying the path name of the directories because doing so would have the same functionality which is to determine the existence of the requested files on the client computer before retrieving the file from a remote network location.

As to claim 31, Tso teaches the media of claim 30 wherein the instruction cause the computer to update the list responsive to input received from a user (see col. 14).

As to claim 32, Tso teaches a multi-media editing system comprising:

a multi-media file locator object configured to intercept network-bound requests for multi-media files and determine whether requested files are locally maintained on a user computer; and

a list associated with the file locator object and referencing local file directories on the user computer where multi-media files are stored, the list being used by the file locator object to determine whether requested files are locally maintained on the user computer (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

However Tso does not explicitly teach the limitation "specifying a path name for one or more designated directories". It would have been obvious for one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Tso's teaching of creating and retrieving entries in the cache by specifying the path name of the directories because doing so would have the same functionality which is to determine the existence of the requested files on the client computer before retrieving the file from a remote network location.

As to claim 33, Tso teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the list references local file directories where files have been maintained in the past (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 34, Tso teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the locator object is configured to update the list (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

As to claim 35, Tso teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the locator object is configured to update the list responsive to a multi-media file being stored in a local directory where multi-media files have not been stored before (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

As to claim 38, Tso teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the locator object comprises a COM object (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

As to claim 39, Tso teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the locator object comprises an object-oriented object (see col. 14 lines 21-60).

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Method and apparatus for intelligent network bandwidth and system resource utilization for web content fetch and refresh by Li et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,701,316
- System and method for intelligent caching and refresh of dynamically generated and static web content by Li et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,591,266
- Methods and apparatus for adapting multimedia content for client devices by Li et al., U.S. Patent No. 6345,279
- System for dynamically controlling a network proxy by Knauerhase et al., U.S. patent No. 6,237,031
- Information access system and method by Li, U.S. Patent No. 6,049,829

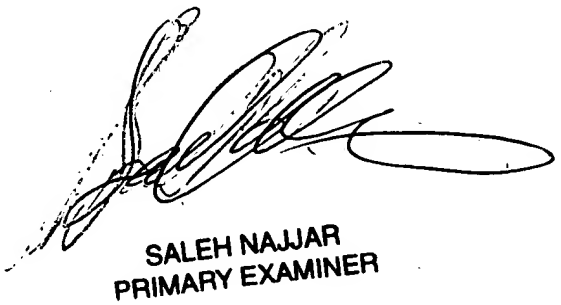
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hussein A El-chanti whose telephone number is (571)272-3999. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571)272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hussein Elchanti

Jan. 5, 2004



SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER